IN THE TITLE

Please change the title of the application to -- APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR EFFICIENT DATA STORAGE USING A FIFO MEMORY –

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [009] of the application with the following:

[009] To address the above-discussed deficiencies of the prior art, it is a primary object of the present invention to provide a first-in, first-out memory apparatus that includes a memory operable to store a data packet. The memory apparatus also includes circuitry operable to store a length of the data packet and the data packet in the memory. The memory apparatus further includes circuitry operable to flush the length and the data packet from the memory when the data packet is invalid.

Please replace paragraph [032] of the application with the following:

[032] In one aspect of operation, a device that uses the FIFO memory 300 begins to receive a data packet. Assuming that the RAM 305 is not full, the device begins presenting the data packet to the FIFO memory 300 and asserts the PUSH WORD signal. The device then receives the end of the data packet and sends a DATA IN/LAST BYTE signal to the FIFO memory 300. After determining that the data packet is valid, the device asserts the PUSH PACKET signal.

Please replace paragraph [034] of the application with the following:

[034] Later, the device may retrieve the data packet from the FIFO memory 300. The device asserts a POP WORD signal, which retrieves the value at the memory location identified by the read pointer 315. The location identified by the read pointer 315 represents the location at which the size of the data packet was stored by the length unit 345. As a result, the POP WORD signal causes the retrieval of the data packet size from the RAM 305. After that, additional words are popped from the RAM 305 until the DATA OUT/LAST BYTE signal is detected, at which point the data packet has been retrieved from the RAM 305. The device then asserts a POP PACKET signal, which causes the read packet counter 330 to increment its value.